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Message Text

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61
ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 PM-03 PRS-01 INR-07 IO-10

/056 W
---------- 091577
R 251339Z MAR 75
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8551
USIA WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETEL PFOR US UR
SUBJECT: SOVIET BROADCAST INTERFERENCE ON VOA FREQUENCY

REF: A) MOSCOW 18619 (12/16/74); B) STATE 053230

1. MFA USA DIVISION OFFICER (TRIFONOV, BILATERAL SECTION), CALLED IN ECON/COMM COUNSELOR AND EMBOFF MARCH 25 TO GIVE ORAL RESPONSE TO EMBASSY NOTE (PARA 3. REFTEL A) REGARDING INTERFERENCE BY MINSK TRANSMITTER WITH BOA BROADCASTS FROM FRG AT 1196 KHZ.

2. TRIFONOV STATED THAT USSR MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS HAD INVESTIGATED MATTER AND HAD ASCERTAINED THAT THE MINSK STATION--WHICH OPERATES AT A CAPACITY OF 50 KILOWATTS-- WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN SUBJECT OF COMPLAINT HAD "FRG" STATION (TRIFONOV DID NOT ALLUDE TO ITS BEING A VOA TRANSMITTER) OPERATED AT 70 KILOWATT LEVEL AS ENVISAGED IN ITS 1948 REGISTRATION WITH INTERNATIONAL FREQUENCY REGISTRATION BOARD. INSTEAD, IT TRANSMITS AT LEVEL OF 300 KILOWATTS (COMMENT: THUS GIVING IT WIDER RANGE INTO AREAS WHERE IT ENCOUNTERS INTERFERENCE FROM MINSK TRANSMITTER-- ALSO NOT MENTIONED BY TRIFONOV END COMMENT). HOWEVER, CONTINUED TRIFONOV, IN INTERESTS OF "IMPROVING RELATIONS" SOVIET AUTHORITIES HAVE AGREED TO REDUCE CAPACITY OF MINSK TRANSMITTER TO 25 KILOWATTS, EFFECTIVE MARCH 1.
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3. ACCORDING TO TRIFONOV, THIS INFORMATION WAS TRANSMITTED BY THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS IN A FEB 25 LETTER TO THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNION.
STOESSEL

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